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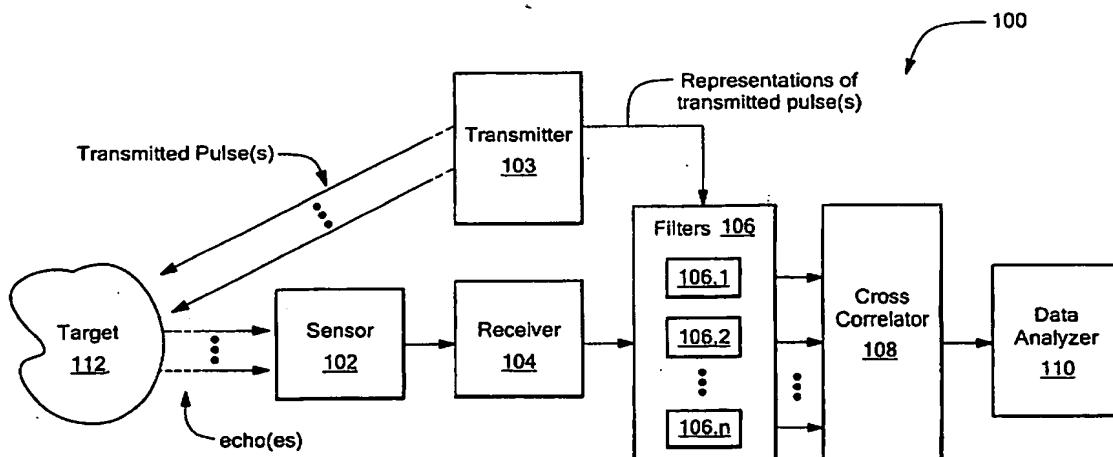
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BROWN UNIVERSITY [US/US]; 1 Prospect Street, Providence, RI 02912 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): INTRATOR, Nathan [IL/US]; 496 Morris Avenue, Providence, RH 02906 (US). COOPER, Leon, N. [US/US]; 49 Intervale Road, Providence, RI 02906 (US). NERETTI, Nicola [IT/US]; 83 Brookside Avenue, Apt. C, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 (US).
- (74) Agents: LEBOVICI, Victor, B. et al.; Weingarten, Schurigin, Gagnebin & Lebovici, LLP, Ten Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109 (US).
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- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA,

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(54) Title: ESTIMATION OF BACKGROUND NOISE AND ITS EFFECT ON SONAR RANGE ESTIMATION



(57) Abstract: A system (100) and method for estimating the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) in a sonar environment and for determining the effect of the estimated SNR on sonar ranging accuracy. The system includes a sensor (102), a transmitter (103), a receiver (104), a plurality of band-pass filters (106), a cross correlator (108), and a data analyzer (110). The transmitter (103) transmits a pulse through a transmission medium. The sensor (102) senses an echo returning from a selected target (112), and provides a signal representing the echo to the receiver (104), which in turn provides an indication of the echo to the band-pass filters (106). The filters (106) provide filtered versions of the echo and pulse to the cross correlator (108), which performs cross correlation operations on filtered echo and pulse. By analyzing the cross correlator output data, the system (100) can determine peak variability within multiple frequency sub-bands, thereby allowing more accurate SNR estimations in noisy environments.

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